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The present Amendment clarifies issues on appeal and does not present new matter. Further, it is submitted that the present Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search and consideration by the Examiner. As such, entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is in proper condition for entry in this application.¹ If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-942-5243.

If extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.112.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 12, 2002

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¹ Applicants note that the present Amendment includes amendments requested but not entered in Applicants' Paper Number 16, titled Amendment and Reply dated June 3, 2002, and in Applicants' Paper Number 19, titled Amendment After Final Rejection dated September 10, 2002.

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Marked-Up Version of Amendments

In the claims

1. (Twice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement[s] thereof.
2. (Thrice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment nucleic acid sequence having from about 50 to about 100 nucleotide residues; wherein said fragment nucleic acid sequence exhibits complete complementarity to a second nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement[s] thereof.
8. (Twice Amended) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule according to claim 16, wherein said rice protein [homologue] or fragment thereof is a homologue of a non-rice cereal protein or fragment thereof.
17. (Twice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule having between 90% and 100% sequence identity with [the second] a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement[s] thereof.
18. (Once Amended) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 17, wherein said substantially purified nucleic acid molecule has between 99% and 100% sequence identity with [said second nucleic acid molecule] SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.